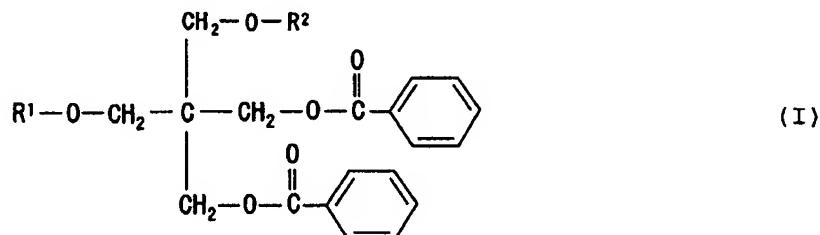


Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A cosmetic composition comprising:
an ester of pentaerythritol and a benzoic acid having the formula (I):



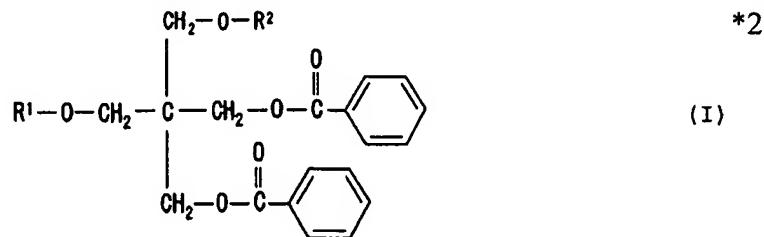
wherein R^1 is a 2-ethylhexanoic acid residue indicates a hydrogen atom or a linear or branched fatty acid residue having 1 to 24 carbon atoms, and R^2 is a benzoic acid residue, indicates a linear or branched fatty acid residue having 1 to 24 carbon atoms or a benzoic acid residue, and

a cosmetically acceptable carrier.

2. (Cancelled).
3. (Original) A cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the amount blended of the ester of pentaerythritol and benzoic acid of formula (I) is 5 to 80% by mass.
4. (Previously Presented) A cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the cosmetic composition is a lipstick.
5. (Previously Presented) A cosmetic composition of claim 1, wherein the composition improves gloss of lips after application of the composition to the lips.

6. (Currently Amended) A cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 74, wherein R² is a behenic acid residue.

7. (Currently Amended) A cosmetic composition of claim 1, comprising:
an ester of pentaerythritol and a benzoic acid having the formula (I):



wherein R¹ is a 2-ethylhexanoic acid residue and R² is a linear or branched fatty acid residue having 1 to 24 carbon atoms.

8. (New) A method for providing gloss on lips and moisture feeling by applying the cosmetic composition according to claim 1 to the lips.

9. (New) A method for providing gloss on lips and moisture feeling by applying the cosmetic composition according to claim 7 to the lips.